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ONI Contribution to NIE-50: The Current Situation and Probable Developments in Eastern Germany Through 1952

IV. Eastern German Navy

A. East German Naval Forces, Present Status

1. Operational

- a. 6 ANC (Ex-German Navy, built in 1943)
- b. 6 SC (Built in Berlin, 1950)
- c. A few service craft.

2. Building

- a. 6 - 12 SC.

3. Reconstructing

- a. 3 CMC (Salvaged, ex-Danish)
- b. 1 AG (Salvaged, ex-Danish)

B. Indications of Soviet plans for improving and enlarging these forces.

There has been no reliable indication that the Soviets plan to improve or enlarge these forces.

C. Role of Eastern German Naval Forces.

At the present time the East German forces could conduct limited anti-submarine, minesweeping, and patrol operations. It is probable that the East German vessels have been conducting joint exercises with the Soviets in the Sassintz area.

D. Soviet use of Eastern German Naval facilities.

Beyond the use of Rostock as a repair facility, Soviet Naval Forces do not use East German bases to any great extent. Light forces make occasional calls in Eastern German ports, and groups of salvage personnel are reported to be situated in some of the East German coastal cities. The number of these

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personnel, however, is small. The most forward of Soviet Naval facilities is located in Swinoujscie, Poland. Forces from Swinoujscie have been using Gassintz as a base of operations with increasing frequency over the past few months.

V. Additional Indications of Probable Soviet Courses of Action.

There are at present no indications evident to ONI which indicate probable Soviet courses of action with regard to Eastern Germany other than that of keeping Eastern Germany under Communist control.